Abstract of the Disclosure

CARDIOTROPHIN-1 COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUMOR

The invention concerns compositions and methods for the diagnosis and treatment of neoplastic cell growth and proliferation in mammals, including humans. The invention is based on the identification of cardiotrophin-1 gene amplified in the genome of tumor cells. Such gene amplification is expected to be associated with the overexpression of the gene product and contribute to tumorigenesis. Acordingly, the cardiotrophin-1 polypeptide encoded by the amplified gene is believed to be a useful target for the diagnosis and/or treatment (including prevention) of certain cancers, and may act as a predictor of the prognosis of tumor treatment.